

PATENT Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 08137.0004

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 1762

Examiner: B. Chen

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Hiroshi SHINRIKI et al.

Application No.: 09/657,627

Filed: September 8, 2000

METHOD OF FORMING A THIN For:

FILM

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in Section 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of either a Final Office Action, Quayle Action, or a Notice of Allowance. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by a fee payment of \$180.00 as specified by Section 1.17(p).

Copies of the listed documents are attached.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicants determine

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U.S. Patent Application No.: 09/657,627 Attorney Docket No.: 08137.0004

that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law,

Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: February 21, 2003

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